REMARKS

Claims 1 and 5-7 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Coutts. Claims 2-4 and 8 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Coutts in view of Zhu.

Applicant has amended claims 1, 5, 7, and 8 to further distinguish over the cited references.

For example, in claim 1, the references fail to teach or suggest a computer peripheral including:

a housing for containing two normally separately housed peripherals for saving space at a checkout station including a receipt printer and a bar code reader; and

control circuitry in the housing for facilitating communication of receipt data between the printer and a separately housed controlling transaction computer at the checkout station and bar code data between the bar code reader and the separately housed controlling transaction computer over a single cable during a sale of products completed by the transaction computer.

Applicant has noted the prior art of record but not relied upon.

Applicant respectfully requests that the pending claims be allowed.

Respectfully Aubmitte

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